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## Advisory Announcement

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### SECTION 11-A PERSONAL USE AND SPORT SHRIMP POT FISHERIES REMAIN CLOSED

Personal use and sport shrimp pot fisheries in Section 11-A **will remain closed** in all waters north and west of a line extending from a regulatory marker near Point Bishop at 58°12.32' N lat, 134°10.14' W long to the Point Arden Light at 58°09.55' N lat, 134°10.69' W long, south of the latitude of Little Island Light at 58°32.41' N lat, 135°02.83' W long, and east of a line from Little Island Light to Point Retreat Light at 58°24.69' N lat, 134°57.31' W long, from 12:01 a.m. Sunday, January 1, through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, December 31, 2023 (Figure 1).

Due to declining commercial fishery catch per unit of effort (CPUE) indicating low spot shrimp abundance in Section 11-A, the commercial, personal use, and sport fisheries were closed July 1, 2013, to allow the shrimp population in this area to rebuild. Creel census data from 2003–2007 indicated that the personal use/sport fishery harvests were approximately equal to commercial harvests during this time. Therefore, closure of all shrimp pot fisheries that harvest spot shrimp in this area are necessary to rebuild the population.

The intention of these closures is to allow spot shrimp abundance to rebound to a sustainable level. The Section 11-A personal use and sport shrimp pot fisheries will remain closed until survey data indicates the spot shrimp population can support directed harvests. The department has conducted four surveys of the area from 2017–2020 to gather data on spot shrimp population size and structure, and results of these surveys indicate a continued decline in spot shrimp abundance and a lack of replacement of large size shrimp. The department will continue to survey Section 11-A in future years and will be prepared to react if the spot shrimp population recovers to sufficient levels to sustain fisheries.

Advisory Announcement web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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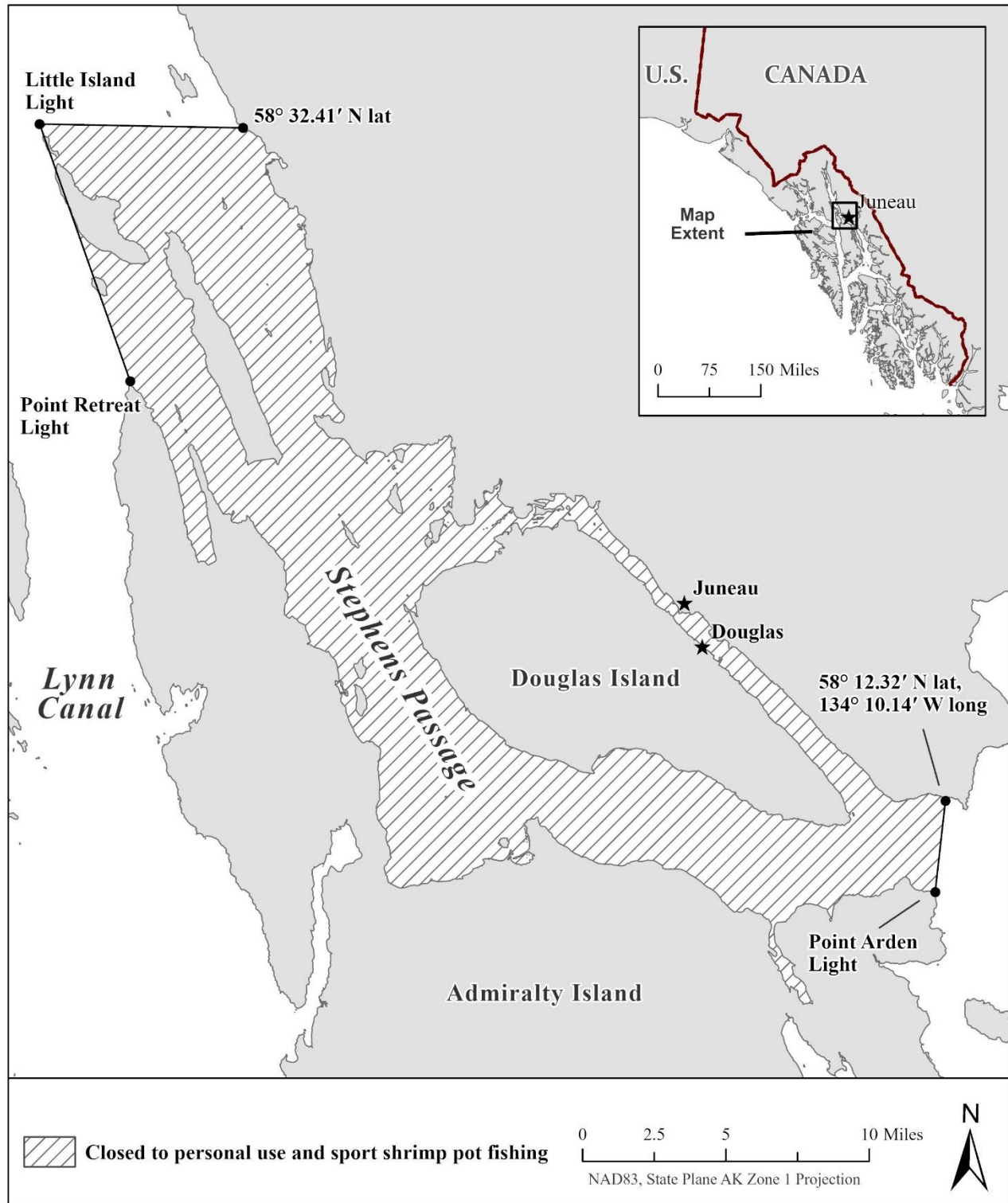


Figure 1. Section 11-A personal use and sport shrimp pot fisheries closure.